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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

DISTRICT OF NEVADA

DEVON PRESCOTT, individually and on
behalf of all those similarly situated;
BROOKE FREEMAN, individually and on
behalf of all those similarly situated;
TASANEEPORN UPRIGHT, individually and
on behalf of all those similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

vs.

SLIDE FIRE SOLUTIONS, LP, a Foreign
Corporation; DOE MANUFACTURERS 1 –
100, inclusive; and ROE RETAILERS 1- 100,
inclusive,

Defendants.

CASE NO.: 2:18-cv-00296-GMN-GWF

PLAINTIFFS' OPPOSITION TO
DEFENDANT SLIDE FIRE SOLUTIONS,
LP'S MOTION TO DISMISS THE
COMPLAINT PURSUANT TO RULES
12(b)(2) AND 12(b)(6)

1 COME NOW Plaintiffs, DEVON PRESCOTT, BROOKE FREEMAN and
 2 TASANEEPORN UPRIGHT (“Plaintiffs”), by and through counsel, and herein submit their
 3 Opposition to Defendant Slide Fire Solutions, LP’s Motion to Dismiss the Complaint Pursuant
 4 to Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 12(b)(2) and 12(b)(6) [ECF No. 8].

5 This Opposition is based upon pleadings and papers on file and the attached Points and
 6 Authorities, and any oral argument that may be entertained at the hearing of this matter.

I.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

7
 8
 9 For over 80 years, the United States has recognized that firearms that can fire
 10 automatically—without successive pulls of the trigger—should not be widely distributed,
 11 because there is too great a risk they will be used for mass slaughter. The National Firearms
 12 Act of 1934, 26 U.S.C. § 5801, *et. seq.*, (“NFA”), has strictly regulated the manufacture and
 13 sale of such weapons, so strictly that the law is often called “the machine gun ban.”¹

14 Defendant Slide Fire Solutions, LP (“Slide Fire”) manufactures and sells a device to
 15 circumvent, and violate, that longstanding law. Slide Fire sells to the general public a “bump
 16 stock device,” an after-market accessory that enables anyone to convert a semiautomatic firearm
 17 into, effectively, an automatic weapon. A bump stock enables a gun to fire hundreds of rounds
 18 of ammunition in seconds—by one report, 90 shots in 10 seconds.² Such firepower is not
 19 needed for hunting or home defense. What it is useful for was evident on October 1, 2017,
 20 when bump stocks enabled a killer to fire over 1,100 rounds in about 660 seconds, and turn the
 21 Route 91 Harvest Music Festival into a war zone. Fifty-eight people died, over 500 were
 22 physically wounded, and thousands—Plaintiffs’ proposed class—were emotionally injured and
 23
 24
 25

26 ¹ Courts have recognized the extreme danger posed by machineguns, justifying a ban on the sale of machineguns
 27 manufactured after 1986. *See, e.g., Hollis v. Lynch*, 827 F.3d 436, 448 (5th Cir. 2016) (describing fully automatic
 28 weapons as “primarily weapons of war [that] have no appropriate sporting use or use for personal protection” in
 decision upholding constitutionality of machinegun ban) (citations and quotations marks omitted).

² Larry Buchanan, Jon Huang & Adam Pearce, *Nine Rounds a Second: How the Las Vegas Gunman Outfitted a Rifle to Fire Faster*, NY TIMES (Oct. 5, 2017), <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2017/10/02/us/vegas-guns.html> (by comparison, a fully automatic weapon allows shooter to fire about 98 shots in seven seconds).

1 traumatized. This deadliest mass shooting in U.S. history was made possible by Defendant's
2 bump stocks.³

3 Plaintiffs allege that it was negligent and unreasonably dangerous for Slide Fire to
4 market and sell to the public this device that enables anyone to fire weapons of war. Even
5 worse, Slide Fire misled the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives ("ATF") to
6 obtain approval to sell the device, saying it was intended for people with limited mobility in
7 their hands. Slide Fire's marketing materials suggest that this was a falsehood designed to
8 prevent ATF from prohibiting the sale of bump stocks; Slide Fire does not market to the
9 disabled, but to civilians—like the Las Vegas killer—who want automatic firepower.

10 In moving to dismiss, Slide Fire argues that (1) Nevada courts may not exercise personal
11 jurisdiction over it; (2) Congress has immunized it from civil liability, barring courts from
12 hearing common law claims brought by people foreseeably injured by its wrongful conduct; and
13 (3) Nevada law does not support Plaintiffs' common law claims. Slide Fire is wrong.

14 II.

15 PERSONAL JURISDICTION

16 A. This Court Has Personal Jurisdiction Over Slide Fire.

17 On a motion to dismiss, a plaintiff must merely make a *prima facie* showing that the
18 Court has personal jurisdiction over the defendant. *Harris Rutsky & Co. Ins. Servs. v. Bell &*
19 *Clements Ltd.*, 328 F.3d 1122, 1129 (9th Cir. 2003). Accepting Plaintiffs' allegations as true
20 and drawing all inferences in their favor, Plaintiffs' Complaint satisfies this requirement.
21 Plaintiffs have sufficiently alleged that Slide Fire has "minimum contacts" with this forum
22 "such that the maintenance of the suit does not offend traditional notions of fair play and
23 substantial justice." *Int'l Shoe Co. v. Washington*, 326 U.S. 310, 316 (1945).⁴ Accordingly, the
24 Court must deny Slide Fire's Motion to Dismiss pursuant to Rule 12(b)(2).

25
26
27 ³See Doug Criss, *The Las Vegas attack is the deadliest mass shooting in modern US history*, CNN (Oct. 2, 2017),
<https://www.cnn.com/2017/10/02/us/las-vegas-attack-deadliest-us-mass-shooting-trnd/index.html>.

28 ⁴ This minimum contacts satisfies Nevada's long-arm statute, NEV. REV. STAT. § 14.065, which is coextensive with
Constitutional due process. *Exobox*, 2015 WL 82886, at *13, *17. Thus, personal jurisdiction over Slide Fire lies
here.

1. This Court has Specific Jurisdiction over Slide Fire.

Plaintiffs have pled sufficient allegations to establish a *prima facie* case that this Court has specific jurisdiction over Slide Fire. District courts in the Ninth Circuit utilize a three-pronged test for specific jurisdiction: (1) the nonresident defendant must do some act or consummate some transaction with the forum or perform some act by which he purposefully avails himself of the privilege of conducting activities in the forum, thereby invoking the benefits and protections; (2) the claim must be one which arises out of or results from the defendant's forum-related activities; and (3) exercise of jurisdiction must be reasonable. *Cybersell, Inc. v. Cybersell, Inc.*, 130 F.3d 414, 416 (9th Cir. 1997). If the plaintiff carries its burden to prove the first two elements, defendant has the burden to present a compelling case that jurisdiction would be unreasonable. *Exobox Techs. Corp. v. Tsambis*, No. 2:14-cv-00501-RFB-VCF, 2015 WL 82886, at *4 (D. Nev. Jan. 6, 2015). Plaintiffs meet the test.

a. Slide Fire purposefully availed itself of the benefits of Nevada law

Plaintiff has made a *prima facie* showing that Slide Fire purposefully availed itself of the protections and benefits of Nevada by attending trade shows here in years leading up to the shooting, through its website and marketing, and its presence in Nevada retail establishments.

A defendant purposefully avails himself of the benefits and protections of a forum state by regularly attending trade shows there. *Computerized Screening, Inc. v. Healthspot Inc.*, No. 2:14-cv-00573-RFB-NJK, 2015 WL 4562342 (D. Nev. July 28, 2015); *see also Synthes (U.S.A.) v. G.M. Dos Reis Jr. Ind. Com. De Equip. Medico*, 563 F.3d 1285, 1299 (Fed. Cir. 2009). Here, Slide Fire reached out to Nevada, and purposefully availed itself of its laws, by regularly attending and participating in Nevada gun trade shows. Defendant went to these shows to promote, market, and sell its bump fire products to vendors, buyers and resellers in Nevada.⁵ Also, *via* its website, Slide Fire markets, solicits, and/or otherwise advertises its products for sale to Nevada residents and others. Compl. ¶¶ 43–44. Notably, Defendant's website facilitated sales in Nevada by providing a "locate a dealer" function which enabled users to

⁵ Slide Fire regularly traveled to Nevada and attended "SHOT Show," a gun trade show held in Las Vegas. *See* SHOT Show Exhibitor List for 2016 and SHOT Show Exhibitor Lists for 2017, attached hereto as Exhibit "2" along with a verification of their authenticity, attached hereto as Exhibit "1"

1 locate retailers selling its products within a state, including Nevada.⁶ Compl. ¶¶ 44, 60. *Picot v.*
 2 *Weston*, cited by Defendant, emphasizes that personal jurisdiction will attach when a defendant
 3 has “performed some type of affirmative conduct which allows or promotes the transaction of
 4 business within the forum state,” which is precisely what Plaintiffs allege here. 780 F.3d 1206,
 5 1212 (9th Cir. 2015) (internal citation omitted). Through its online storefront for selling its
 6 products to Nevadans, its sale of bump stocks through Nevada retailers, its regular promotion of
 7 bump stocks at trade shows in Nevada, and the attendance of its officers at such trade shows,
 8 Slide Fire has purposefully availed itself of this forum.

9 Slide Fire contends that the “effects” test from *Calder v. Jones*, 465 U.S. 783 (1984)
 10 applies to this case—and that Plaintiffs do not satisfy that test—based on the false premise that
 11 Plaintiffs allege Defendants’ only contact with Nevada is the “unilateral activity of a third party
 12 (Paddock).”⁷ Mot. at 9. This is untrue. Defendant’s repeated participation in Nevada trade
 13 shows, its marketing and website directed at Nevadans, and its sales through Nevada retailers,
 14 satisfies the minimum contacts necessary to confer specific jurisdiction. Moreover, the
 15 “effects” test is inapplicable here because Plaintiffs, unlike in *Calder*, are not asserting
 16 intentional tort claims, but negligence and strict liability. Slide Fire cites no authority that
 17 applies the “effects” test to cases not involving intentional conduct. Mot. at 8.

18 Accordingly, Plaintiffs have made a *prima facie* showing that Slide Fire purposefully
 19 availed itself of this forum.

20 **b. Plaintiffs’ Claims Arise Out of Defendant’s Activities in Nevada.**

21 Plaintiffs have also made a *prima facie* showing that their claim “arises out of or related
 22 to” defendant’s activities in the forum state. *Burger King Corp.*, 471 U.S. at 472. Plaintiffs
 23 allege Slide Fire gained government approval to sell bump stocks without restriction by
 24 representing them as devices to assist persons “whose hands have limited mobility”. Compl. ¶¶
 25 12, 54, 78–89. These statements are inconsistent with Slide Fire’s marketing, which emphasizes
 26 that this product was intended for people—who “love full auto”—to convert a legal firearm into
 27

28 ⁶ Slide Fire disabled this function on its website after the shooting.

⁷ *Calder*, 465 U.S. 783, 789 (holding mere injury to a forum resident is not a sufficient connection to the forum).

an illegal machinegun absent the prohibitive price tag and requisite background check. *Id.* at ¶¶ 54–55. Upon information and belief, Slide Fire made similar misrepresentations when attending and participating in trade shows in Nevada and otherwise promoting, marketing, and selling bump stocks in Nevada. Plaintiffs’ claims—that Slide Fire’s negligent marketing, sale, and distribution practices created the foreseeable risk that bump stocks would be used to commit acts of violence—directly relates to and arises out of Defendant’s contacts with Nevada, as Slide Fire used these negligent practices in Nevada, which led to the use of the bump stock to commit an act of violence in Nevada by Paddock, a Nevada resident.

c. Exercise of Personal Jurisdiction Over Slide Fire in Nevada Comports with Fair Play and Substantial Justice.

Slide Fire does not even contend that it has met its burden to show that it would be unjust or unreasonable to assert personal jurisdiction in Nevada. *See generally* Mot. at 7-9. That is because it is patently just for this Court to assert personal jurisdiction over Slide Fire due to its regular travel to, and business activities within, Nevada. Indeed, Slide Fire’s mere attendance at Nevada trade shows demonstrates that hauling Defendant into court in this forum is fair, and not overly burdensome. *See supra*, at 5.⁸

2. This Court has General Jurisdiction over Slide Fire.

Even if this Court did not have specific jurisdiction over Slide Fire—which it does—Plaintiffs have pleaded sufficient allegations to establish a *prima facie* case for this Court to confer general jurisdiction in this case. Slide Fire engages in substantial or continuous and systematic business contacts that approximate physical presence in Nevada, such as marketing, soliciting, and/or otherwise advertising its products for sale in Nevada. Compl. ¶¶ 43–44, 60. Through its online advertisements and marketing, Slide Fire has generated millions of dollars in

⁸ *See, e.g., Synthes*, 563 F.3d at 1299 (“We note, however, that ‘progress in communications and transportation has made the defense of a lawsuit in a foreign tribunal less burdensome.’ . . . In addition, for at least the last five years, [the defendant’s] representatives have traveled to the United States for, among other things, trade shows, which suggests that, as far as [the defendant] is concerned, travel itself is not unduly burdensome.”) (quoting *World-Wide Volkswagen Corp. v. Woodson*, 444 U.S. 286, 294 (1980)); *see also Patent Rights Prot. Grp., LLC v. Video Gaming Techs. Inc.*, 603 F.3d 1364, 1367 (Fed. Cir. 2010) (finding that exercising specific jurisdiction over defendants would not place a “particularly onerous burden on the defendants, given their admitted presence at numerous trade shows in the forum state).

1 revenue from its sales of bump stocks. *Id.* at ¶ 50. A portion of that financial support has come
 2 directly from Nevadans, including from Paddock, a resident of Nevada, who bought dozens of
 3 Defendant’s bump stocks to carry out his assault. *Id.* at ¶ 39, 62-63.

4 **B. In the Alternative, This Court Should Grant Jurisdictional Discovery.**

5 In the unlikely event that the Court believes the present record is not sufficiently
 6 developed to determine whether Slide Fire is subject to personal jurisdiction, this Court should
 7 allow Plaintiffs limited jurisdictional discovery. *See Mullally v. Jones*, No. 2:05-cv-00154-BES-
 8 GWF, 2007 WL 67429, at *7 (D. Nev. Feb. 28, 2007) (citing *Commissariat A L’Energie*
 9 *Atomique v. Chi Mei Optoelectronics Corp.*, 395 F.3d 1315, 1323 (Fed. Cir. 2005)). The Ninth
 10 Circuit has consistently held that jurisdictional discovery is appropriate when additional
 11 discovery would help clarify the facts before the court. *Harris Rutsky & Co. Ins. Servs. v. Bell*
 12 *& Clements Ltd*, 328 F.3d 1122, 1135 (9th Cir. 2003). Through discovery, Plaintiffs—and this
 13 Court—would definitively learn, among other things: the volume of Slide Fire’s sales of bump
 14 stocks in Nevada; its sales and retail relationships with third parties selling its bump stocks in
 15 Nevada; its specific marketing strategies in Nevada; its agents’ and officers’ travel to Nevada;
 16 the specific locations where Paddock purchased bump stocks; any communications between
 17 Paddock and Slide Fire; and other information valuable to a personal jurisdiction analysis.

18 **III.**

19 **STANDARDS FOR A RULE 12(b)(6) MOTION TO DISMISS**

20 On a motion to dismiss, “[a]ll well-pleaded allegations of material fact in the complaint
 21 are accepted as true and are construed in the light most favorable to the non-moving party.”
 22 *Faulkner v. ADT Sec. Servs., Inc.*, 706 F.3d 1017, 1019 (9th Cir. 2013) (internal citations
 23 omitted). To survive a motion to dismiss, a plaintiff must only allege facts that are “plausibly
 24 suggestive of a claim entitling the plaintiff to relief.” *Moss v. U.S. Secret Serv.*, 572 F.3d 962,
 25 969 (9th Cir. 2009). “[A] complaint need not contain detailed factual allegations; rather, it must
 26 plead ‘enough facts to state a claim to relief that is plausible on its face.’” *Clemens v.*
 27 *DaimlerChrysler Corp.*, 534 F.3d 1017, 1022 (9th Cir. 2008) (quoting *Bell Atl. Corp. v.*
 28 *Twombly*, 550 U.S. 544, 570 (2007)). Plaintiffs easily meet this standard.

IV.

SLIDE FIRE IS NOT ENTITLED TO IMMUNITY UNDER PLCAA

Defendant Slide Fire contends that it is insulated from liability under the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act (“PLCAA” or “the Act”) because its bump stock devices are “component parts” of a firearm. Mot. at 13–17. Defendant is wrong. Bump stock devices are accessories, not components, so they are not protected by PLCAA. Even if bump stocks were components, Slide Fire is not entitled to PLCAA’s protection because it violated the law.

As an initial matter, Slide Fire overstates PLCAA as a sweeping federal law broadly shielding firearms manufacturers from liability.⁹ Mot. at 10-13. However, Congress’s intent was far narrower, and it certainly did not shield makers of products such as bump stocks—that circumvent or violate federal law and enable mass murders like the Las Vegas shooting.¹⁰ Indeed, the Justice Department is promulgating regulations that ban bump stocks under longstanding legislation.¹¹ Interpreting PLCAA to immunize Slide Fire’s conduct directly contravenes federal law and the government’s intended actions.

Moreover, bump stock devices are not sheltered by PLCAA’s limited reach, as bump stocks are “accessories” to firearms, not “component parts.” Compl. ¶¶ 4, 43. And, even if they *were* component parts, PLCAA does not insulate a manufacturer from civil liability when it has violated federal laws and regulations applicable to the sale of firearms, as Plaintiffs allege here.

A. Bump Stock Devices Are Not “Component Parts of a Firearm”

Although PLCAA provides limited immunity for licensed firearms manufacturers and sellers from some liability for a third party’s unlawful use of their products, the Act only applies

⁹ If this court found that PLCAA barred Plaintiffs’ claims, Plaintiffs would seek leave to file briefs arguing that PLCAA is unconstitutional, which it is, including on 10th Amendment and Due Process grounds, and to notify the Department of Justice of that contention.

¹⁰ The bill’s Senate Floor Leader made clear that “[PLCAA] “does not protect firearms or ammunitions manufacturers, sellers or trade associations from any lawsuits based on their own negligence or criminal conduct.” 151 Cong. Rec. S9065 (July 27, 2005) (Sen. Craig). Similarly, PLCAA’s first Purpose is not to protect negligence that is a contributing cause to crimes, but “To prohibit causes of action [against the gun companies covered by the Act] for the harm *solely caused* by the criminal or unlawful misuse of firearm products ... by others ...” 15 U.S.C. § 7901(b)(1) (emphasis added). See also 15 U.S.C. § 7901(a)(5) (findings state PLCAA prevents “[t]he possibility of imposing liability on an entire industry for harm that is solely caused by others.”).

¹¹ See *Department of Justice Submits Notice of Proposed Regulation Banning bump stocks*, Department of Justice: Office of Public Affairs (Mar. 10, 2018), <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/departments-justice-submits-notice-proposed-regulation-banning-bump-stocks> (announcing intent to prohibit manufacture or sale of bump stocks).

1 to “qualified products.” 15 U.S.C. § 7903(4). The statute defines a “qualified product[.]” in
 2 relevant part, to encompass firearms and their “components” *Id.* Bump stock devices are
 3 neither, so Slide Fire is not protected by PLCAA.

4 **1. Bump Stocks Are Not “Component Parts of a Firearm” within PLCAA’s Plain**
 5 **Meaning**

6 The Court need not look beyond PLCAA’s plain language to determine that bump stock
 7 devices are not “component parts of a firearm” under the Act. *Guido v. Mount Lemmon Fire*
 8 *Dist.*, 859 F.3d 1168, 1170 n.1 (9th Cir. 2017) (analysis of statute begins with its plain
 9 language). A “component” is an integral part of the whole; it is not an accessory or
 10 enhancement added after-the-fact. *See Oxford English Dictionary* (2018) (“component” is “[a]
 11 constituent element or part.”). A bump stock is not a component part necessary to make up a
 12 rifle as a “whole”, but is an accessory added *after* a consumer purchases a fully functional rifle.

13 Plaintiffs allege that a bump stock device is a separate part that the Las Vegas killer
 14 used: his rifles “were equipped with a ‘bump stock’ – a device that *attaches to a semi-automatic*
 15 *rifle*, which allows the rifle to mimic a fully automatic weapon” (Compl. ¶ 39); a bump stock is
 16 an “aftermarket *accessory*” (Compl. ¶ 40); and “Slide Fire designs, manufactures, markets,
 17 and/or sells firearm *accessories*, including sliding rifle gunstocks, more commonly referred to
 18 as ‘bump fire stocks’” (Compl. ¶ 43) (emphases added). Plaintiffs’ plausible (and correct)
 19 reading of PLCAA, and their allegations reflecting the same, are sufficient to defeat Slide Fire’s
 20 motion to dismiss. *See Haney v. United Airlines, Inc.*, Case No. 15-cv-00474-VC, 2016 WL
 21 80554, at *4 (N.D. Cal. Jan. 7, 2016) (denying motion to dismiss when plaintiffs’ allegations
 22 raised “plausible reading of the . . . statute” that “ha[d] some support in the case law”).

23 **2. Slide Fire’s Own Marketing Shows that Bump Stock Devices are not**
 24 **“Component Parts of a Firearm”**

25 Slide Fire’s marketing materials, which are exhibits to its Motion, confirm that bump
 26 stock devices are not component parts of a firearm. Its catalog states that an “existing [rifle]”
 27 becomes “enhanc[ed]” upon the addition of a bump stock device. Mot., Ex. B at 20–21. The
 28 devices are “install[ed]” onto a completed rifle (*Id.* at 9); intended to “change your standard

[rifle]” and enact “a complete overhaul on [a] rifle” (*Id.* at 22); and “add fun to your shooting sessions, and *can really take your rifle to the next level.*” *Id.* at 17 (emphasis added).

3. Other Authorities Support That Bump Stocks Are Not Components

Case law interpreting “component parts” under PLCAA, although limited, demonstrates that bump stock devices are not “component parts” because they are not necessary for the use of an otherwise-functional firearm. In *Sambrano v. Savage Arms, Inc.*, 338 P.3d 103 (N.M. App. 2014), the court found that a cable gun lock, sold separately from the rifle, was “an accessory rather than a component of the rifle such that the lock does not fall within the definition of a ‘qualified product’” under PLCAA. *Id.* at 105. The court concluded that “[t]he lock is not a qualified product under the PLCAA” and that “PLCAA does not preclude Plaintiffs’ claims against [] the lock distributor.” *Id.* at 105–06.

Slide Fire is similar to *Sambrano*’s lock distributor; it manufactures a product that is sold separately from a firearm and is not required for its use. As the court in *Sambrano* concluded, even if a *rifle* manufacturer has immunity under PLCAA, the party distributing a rifle *accessory* (like a bump stock) does not. *See also Auto-Ordnance Corp. v. United States*, 822 F.2d 1566, 1570–72 (Fed. Cir. 1987) (sights and compensators that a manufacturer made and sold with semiautomatic carbines were “accessories,” not “component parts” of a complete firearm, because the carbines were complete and fully functional firearms without them).

Similarly, under federal excise tax regulations on manufacturers’ sale of most firearms, taxable “component parts,” included in the price of the firearms, are items that “would ordinarily be attached to a firearm during use *and, in the ordinary course of trade, are packaged with the firearm at the time of sale by the manufacturer or importer.*” 27 C.F.R. §§ 53.61(b)(2) (emphasis added).¹² Bump stocks are not firearms, and they are not included in the packaging of

¹² Slide Fire cites to implementing regulations for other statutes which are inapposite. Mot. at 16 n. 5. The Firearms and Ammunition Excise Tax defining “component parts” to include “buttstocks” and “attachable shoulder stocks” is irrelevant. 27 C.F.R. § 53.61(5)(ii). Bump stocks are not “buttstocks” that are attached to the rifle at sale. And the regulation only provides that “attachable shoulder stocks” are component parts if they are “provided with the firearm.” Bump stocks are sold separately from firearms. Slide Fire’s reliance on the definition of “component” in regulations implementing the Arms Export Control Act is also inapposite. *See* 15 C.F.R. § 772.1; 22 C.F.R. § 120.45 (Mot. at 16 n. 5). The definition of “component” in these regulations is tied to the definition of an “end-item[,]” a term not found in PLCAA. Moreover, these regulations expressly distinguish between

1 an otherwise-completed rifle. Under the regulations, nontaxable “accessories” include “*tools*”
 2 and “*optional items* purchased by the customer at the time of retail sale . . .” 27 C.F.R. §
 3 53.61(b)(5)(iv) (emphasis added). In fact, Slide Fire offers for sale a “conversion kit” that
 4 “contains all the parts and *tools* necessary to convert an AR-15 . . . to a six position receiver
 5 extension compatible with our Slide Fire stocks.” Mot., Ex. B at 33 (emphasis added). Tax
 6 laws thus support the conclusion that bump stock devices are not a “component part of a
 7 firearm,” but are accessories to be added onto a functional rifle.

8 **B. Bump Stock Devices Are Not Akin to Rifle Stocks**

9 Unable to show that bump stocks are “components” of a rifle within the meaning of
 10 PLCAA, Slide Fire relies almost entirely on authorities stating that rifle stocks are “component
 11 parts” of a rifle (Mot. at 14–17). This is true, but irrelevant here.

12 The ATF Guidebook that Slide Fire cites demonstrates this point. This manual depicts
 13 diagrams of a manufactured rifle, including its stock. Mot. at 15; Ex. F, at 16. The illustration
 14 does not depict a bump stock device; nor does it show that the addition of a bump stock device
 15 to the rifle, which already appears fully functional, is required for its use.¹³ The cases Slide Fire
 16 cites also do not support the proposition that a bump stock is a component part of a rifle; they
 17 simply confirm that a rifle includes a “rifle stock” (not a bump stock device), or merely use the
 18 word “stock” and “rifle” in close proximity. Mot. at 15–16. These cases concern a different
 19 federal statute, and do not establish that bump stocks are “component parts of a firearm.”

20 **C. PLCAA Predicate Exceptions Apply To This Action**

21 Even if this Court were to conclude that bump stock devices are “component parts of a
 22 firearm” under PLCAA, Slide Fire nevertheless does not enjoy PLCAA immunity. Plaintiffs’
 23 action fits within the “predicate exception” to PLCAA that exempts it from otherwise “qualified
 24 civil liability actions” under the Act. *See* Compl. ¶¶ 15–16, 43, 78–89.

27 “components”, on the one hand, and “accessories and attachments”, on the other hand. 22 C.F.R. § 120.45(b)
 28 (components) and (c) (accessories and attachments); *see also* 15 C.F.R. § 772.1.

¹³ ATF’s 2010 letter, Mot., Ex. C, merely states that a bump stock is part of a firearm, not a “firearm” itself, which would be regulated under the Gun Control Act. Nor does ATF characterize a bump stock as a component.

A manufacturer or seller of a qualified product is not entitled to immunity under PLCAA if it “knowingly violated a State or Federal statute applicable to the sale or marketing of the product, and the violation was a proximate cause of the harm for which relief is sought.” 15 U.S.C. § 7903(5)(A)(iii). This is called the “predicate exception” because a plaintiff must present a cognizable claim as well as “allege a knowing violation of a ‘predicate statute.’” *Ileto v. Glock, Inc.*, 565 F.3d 1126, 1132 (9th Cir. 2009) (quoting *City of N.Y. v. Beretta U.S.A. Corp.*, 524 F.3d 384, 390 (2d Cir. 2008)). The exception applies to all causes of action in the complaint “that allege knowing violations of a state or federal statute applicable to the sale or marketing of firearms.” *Id.* at 1136. To meet the exception, the complaint need not allege violations of a specific statute. Rather, the exception is satisfied upon a showing that the plaintiff “sufficiently alleges facts supporting a finding that defendants knowingly violated federal gun laws.” *Williams v. Beemiller, Inc.*, 100 A.D. 3d 143, 149 (N.Y. App. Div. 2012), *amended by* 103 A.D.3d 1191 (N.Y. App. Div. 2013).

The Complaint alleges at least two predicate violations: Slide Fire’s intentional misrepresentations, or false entry, on its application for a federal firearms license, and its misrepresentations to ATF about the purpose of bump stocks. *See* Compl. ¶¶ 15–16, 43. Plaintiffs adequately pled that Defendant’s actions were the proximate cause of Plaintiffs’ injury. *See, e.g.*, Compl. ¶¶ 81, 99, 113, 127, 140. Moreover, “[w]hether an act is the proximate cause of injury is generally a question of fact.” *Ileto*, 349 F.3d 1191, 1206 (9th Cir. 2003).

1. Predicate Violation: False Entry on ATF Form 7

The predicate exception allows claims where gun companies made false or misleading statements to ATF in an application for a Federal Firearms License. *See* 18 U.S.C. § 923(d)(1)(D) (barring approval of firearms license applications that willfully fail to disclose material information or make false statements); *Williams*, 100 A.D. 3d at 149 (predicate exception applied when alleged facts supported violation of 18 U.S.C. § 923). *See also* 15 U.S.C. § 7903(5)(A)(iii)(I) (predicate exception includes false entries in required records).

Slide Fire must have filed an application with ATF for a Federal Firearms License, because it obtained a Type 7 Federal Firearms License that bears the signature of Slide Fire’s founder, Jeremiah Cottle, on January 5, 2016. *See* Mot., Ex. A. On this application, known as

ATF Form 7,¹⁴ applicants must “[d]escribe the specific activity applicant is engaged in or intends to engage in, which requires a Federal Firearms License.” To obtain a Type 7 License, Slide Fire thus had to certify that it was applying as a “Manufacturer of Firearms Other than Destructive Devices.” However, such a certification must have been false.

The definition of “firearms” on ATF Form 7 (found in 18 U.S.C. § 921(a)(3)) refers solely to “firearms”; it *does not include* a “component part of a firearm”, which is the classification that Slide Fire claims its bump stock devices meet. Mot. at 17. Slide Fire’s representation that it manufactures firearms is thus a “false statement” of a “material fact” because it formed the basis for ATF’s issuance of a Federal Firearms License to Slide Fire as a “Manufacturer Of Firearms Other Than Destructive Devices.” Mot., Ex. A. Slide Fire’s intentional misrepresentation constitutes a violation of a predicate statute applicable to the sale or manufacture of firearms, 18 U.S.C. § 923(d)(1)(D), which governs issuance of Federal Firearms Licenses pursuant to ATF Applications. See also 27 C.F.R. § 478.47. Hence, Slide Fire cannot enjoy PLCAA immunity even if bump stocks are considered a “component part of a firearm,”—as this action falls within PLCAA’s predicate exception.

2. Predicate Violation: Misrepresentations in ATF Correspondence

Plaintiffs allege that Slide Fire also made misrepresentations to ATF in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1001(a)(2), which is a predicate statute under PLCAA, as it imposes a duty not to make false statements or misrepresentations in communications to ATF. Slide Fire’s assertion to ATF in a 2010 letter that bump stock devices were intended to assist “persons whose hands have limited mobility” is false and misleading. See Compl. ¶¶ 13–16. The record reveals no measures taken by Slide Fire to market bump stocks to persons with limited mobility, and statements in its own catalog and advertisements belie any notion that bump stock devices are intended for the use of persons with limited mobility. See, e.g., Compl. ¶ 14 (“Your rifle is hungry, feed it”); Mot., Ex. B at 17 (“Rapid fire capabilities can add fun to your shooting

¹⁴ The Court may take judicial notice of the ATF Form 7 application, posted on ATF’s website at <https://www.atf.gov/firearms/docs/form/form-7-7-cr-application-federal-firearms-license-atf-form-531012531016/download>. See Fed. R. Evid. 201; *Rote v. Silicon Valley Bank, Inc.*, No. 3:16-cv-00471-SI, 2016 WL 4565776, at *4 (D. Or. Sept. 1, 2016).

1 sessions, and can really take your rifle to the next level”). Plaintiffs have sufficiently alleged
 2 multiple predicate violations under PLCAA, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001(a)(2).¹⁵

3 V.

4 **PLAINTIFFS ADEQUATELY ALLEGED COMMON LAW CLAIMS**

5 **A. Plaintiffs Have Adequately Alleged a Claim for Negligence**

6 Defendant also erroneously claims that it cannot be liable under Nevada common law.
 7 Under Nevada law, negligence requires a showing of “(1) the existence of a duty of care, (2)
 8 breach of that duty, (3) legal causation, and (4) damages.” *Sparks v. Alpha Tau Omega*
 9 *Fraternity, Inc.*, 255 P.3d 287, 296 (Nev. 2011) (internal citations omitted). Count I alleges all
 10 elements: Defendant owed a duty of care to Plaintiffs to reasonably market, distribute and sell
 11 its bump stocks; Defendant breached that duty by failing properly to market and sell the bump
 12 stock as a device to aid individuals with limited mobility, and instead promoting it as an
 13 “inexpensive device to circumvent federal law in obtaining fully automatic weapons”;
 14 Defendant’s conduct was a factual and legal cause of Plaintiffs’ harm; and Plaintiffs have
 15 sustained emotional and pecuniary damage as a result. *See* Compl. at ¶¶ 79-89.

16 Slide Fire asserts that it has no duty to Plaintiffs and that there is no proximate cause
 17 between its actions and any harm to Plaintiffs. Slide Fire is wrong.

18 **1. Defendant Owed A Duty of Care to Plaintiffs**

19 Slide Fire urges dismissal, asserting that it had “no duty to control Paddock’s intentional
 20 conduct” because it lacked a “special relationship” with him. Mot. at 22. Slide Fire
 21 misunderstands Plaintiffs’ claims. It is not liable for failing to control Paddock; it is liable for
 22 its *affirmative conduct* in negligently making and selling devices to enable essentially machine
 23 gun fire, which caused the Plaintiffs’ harm. Compl. ¶ 79. It is well-established that a duty of
 24 care arises—and no “special relationship” is required—where, as here, a defendant’s affirmative
 25

26 ¹⁵ Additionally, the Justice Department has recognized that the manufacture and sale of bump stocks to the public
 27 is illegal. *See Department of Justice Submits Notice of Proposed Regulation Banning bump stocks*, Department of
 28 Justice: Office of Public Affairs (Mar. 10, 2018), <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/departments-justice-submits-notice-proposed-regulation-banning-bump-stocks> (submitting “notice of a proposed regulation to clarify that the
 definition of ‘machinegun’ in the National Firearms Act and Gun Control Act includes bump stock type devices,
 and that federal law accordingly prohibits the possession, sale, or manufacture of such devices”).

1 conduct in marketing and distributing its product creates a foreseeable risk of harm. *See Ileto*,
 2 329 F.3d at 1201 (defendant owed a duty of care to plaintiffs as a result of its negligent
 3 manufacture, distribution and sale of firearms). As the Supreme Court of Ohio explained in
 4 *City of Cincinnati v. Beretta U.S.A. Corp.*, 768 N.E.2d 1136, 1144 (Ohio 2002):

5 [T]he negligence issue before us is not whether appellees owe appellant a duty to control
 6 the conduct of third parties. Instead, the issue is whether appellees are themselves
 7 negligent by manufacturing, marketing, and distributing firearms in a way that creates
 8 an illegal firearms market that results in foreseeable injury. Consequently, the ‘special
 relationship’ rule is not determinative of the issue presented here. Instead, the
 allegations of the complaint are to be addressed without resort to that rule.

9 The District of Nevada recognized just this distinction in *Dobson v. Sprint Nextel Corp.*,
 10 where the defendants argued that no duty of care existed because there was no special
 11 relationship between plaintiffs and defendants. Rejecting that argument, the court explained:

12 Plaintiffs have not alleged that Defendants were negligent in *failing to protect them* from
 13 the actions of Defendants’ customers and law enforcement, rather they have alleged that
 14 Defendants were *negligent in creating and providing* a faulty locator services that
 15 *caused the foreseeable consequence* . . . While Defendants may not have a special duty
 16 to ensure the safety of Plaintiffs arising out of a relationship between the parties,
Defendants do have a general duty to exercise reasonable care in their actions and
 would be liable for any foreseeable harm to Plaintiffs caused by their negligence.

17 2014 WL 553314, at *7 (D. Nev. Feb. 10, 2014) (emphasis added). Plaintiffs allege *affirmative*
 18 conduct by Defendant that created a foreseeable risk of harm through its negligent marketing
 19 and sale of bump stocks; thus, no special relationship is needed to give rise to a duty of care.

20 Even if a special relationship were required, one existed since Defendant was in the best
 21 position to control the conduct that gave rise to the injury alleged. *See Scialabba v. Brandise*
 22 *Const. Co.*, 921 P.2d 928, 930-31 (Nev. 1996); *In re September 11 Litigation*, 280 F. Supp. 2d
 23 279, 294 (S.D.N.Y. 2003) (airlines owed duty to individuals on the ground because airlines
 24 “were in the best position to provide reasonable protection against hijackings and the dangers
 25 they presented . . . to ground victims”). Slide Fire was best-situated to control who had access
 26 to bump stock devices and could therefore “take reasonable precautions to protect the other
 27 [party] from assaults by third parties which, at least, could reasonably have been anticipated.”
 28 *Scialabba*, 921 P.2d at 930 (internal citations omitted). Had Slide Fire marketed and sold bump
 stock devices to individuals with limited mobility, as it led ATF to believe it would, instead of

1 targeting customers like Paddock, who wanted the mass-killing firepower of a fully automatic
2 weapon, the massacre in Las Vegas would never have occurred.

3 Defendant also asserts that it did not breach any duty to Plaintiffs because “the ATF
4 expressly found that Slide Fire’s product did not circumvent the law.” Mot. at 22. That finding
5 contradicts the Department of Justice’s current opinion that bump stocks are illegal under
6 longstanding law.¹⁶ Even if the old ATF finding were correct, it would not absolve Defendant
7 of its duty to reasonably market its product. Sellers of legal products can be liable for harm
8 caused by their negligence in marketing and distributing. *See, e.g., Iletto*, 349 F.3d at 1204-09.¹⁷

9 **2. Defendant’s Conduct Proximately Caused Injury to Plaintiffs**

10 Plaintiffs have also adequately pled causation. While Paddock’s actions were
11 intentional, criminal acts, they were a foreseeable result of Defendant’s negligence. “[A]n
12 unlawful act will not supersede causation if it was foreseeable.” *Symeonidis v. AMC, LLC*,
13 2017 WL 6513640, at *2 (Nev. Ct. App. Dec. 11, 2017) (citation omitted); Restatement
14 (Second) of Torts § 448 (third party’s criminal conduct is not a superseding cause if “the actor
15 at the time of his negligent conduct realized or should have realized the likelihood that such a
16 situation might be created, and that a third person might avail himself of the opportunity to
17 commit such a tort or crime”). Indeed, courts routinely find that a firearm manufacturer or
18 seller may be liable in negligence for enabling criminal acts of third parties. *See, e.g., Iletto*, 349
19 F.3d at 1209 (overturning dismissal of plaintiffs’ claims that a criminal shooting was the
20 foreseeable result of the defendants’ negligent distribution practices); *James v. Arms Tech., Inc.*,
21 820 A.2d 27, 44 (N.J. Super. Ct. App. Div. 2003); *Williams*, 103 A.D.3d at 1192.¹⁸

22
23 ¹⁶ *See supra* at 16, n.17.

24 ¹⁷ Defendant also claims *McCarthy v. Sturm, Ruger & Co.*, 916 F. Supp. 366 (S.D.N.Y. 1996) supports dismissal of
25 the negligent marketing claim. *McCarthy*, however, dismissed the claims that defendant was negligent in marketing
26 its ammunition to the public rather than just to law enforcement because plaintiffs did not allege that defendant’s
27 advertisements were “false or misleading.” *Id.* at 369. Here, Plaintiffs’ allegations are *not* limited to Slide Fire’s
28 misrepresentations, and the misrepresentations that Slide Fire’s did make were not directed at the public, but at
ATF, to gain approval to sell the devices. Compl. at ¶¶ 12-15; 53-54; 57. Slide Fire did not market its bump stock
to disabled shooters, but negligently marketed the bump stock as a “military-grade accessory for civilians”,
attracting purchasers like Paddock. Compl. at ¶ 57.

¹⁸ *See also Price v. Blaine Kern Artista, Inc.*, 893 P.2d 367, 369-70 (Nev. 1995) (plaintiff, who was pushed by club
patron while wearing defendant’s George Bush mask, raised issue of fact as to whether the club patron’s conduct
was a foreseeable result of defendant mask manufacturer’s negligence; club patron’s push did not break the chain

1 The very reason that federal law greatly restricts automatic firepower is because of the
 2 foreseeable risk that it will be used as it was in Las Vegas – for mass slaughter. It was
 3 foreseeable that the Defendant’s broad marketing and distribution of bump stocks as a hassle-
 4 free way to fire effectively automatic weapons, without regulation, might, without other
 5 precautions, result in that device being used to cause harm of the sort suffered by Plaintiffs.

6 **B. Plaintiffs Have Adequately Alleged A Claim for Negligence Per Se**

7 Plaintiffs have alleged a viable negligence per se claim. Compl. ¶ 84. “A statutory
 8 violation is negligence per se if the injured party belongs to the class of persons whom the
 9 statute was intended to protect, and the injury suffered is of the type the statute was intended to
 10 prevent.” *Atkinson v. MGM Grand Hotel, Inc.*, 98 P.3d 678, 680 (Nev. 2004). Determining
 11 liability under negligence per se “is in general a question of fact for a jury.” *Anderson v.*
 12 *Baltrusaitis*, 944 P.2d 797, 799 (Nev. 1997) (internal citation omitted).

13 Defendant’s bump stock device violates NEV. REV. STAT. § 104.2314, which requires
 14 products sold in the state of Nevada to be “merchantable,” or “fit for the ordinary purposes for
 15 which such goods are used.” *Id.* §104.2314(2)(c). Slide Fire’s bump stock does not meet this
 16 definition. Defendant claimed that the bump stock’s “ordinary purpose” was to aid individuals
 17 with limited hand mobility, but it is not fit for that purpose. Rather, the “ordinary purposes” for
 18 which bump stocks are *actually* used are for able-bodied persons—like the killer—cheaply and
 19 easily to evade federal laws that regulate automatic weapons. Compl. ¶¶ 12, 55, 80. It is too
 20 dangerous and destructive for an ordinary person to operate. *See* Compl. ¶¶ 122-146.

21 Plaintiffs meet the remaining requirements of a negligence per se claim. They are in the
 22 class of persons intended to be protected by NEV. REV. STAT. § 104.2314, since their injury
 23 resulted from Defendant’s marketing and distribution of the bump stock, which was not fit for
 24 the ordinary purposes for which it was used. Moreover, Plaintiffs suffered the type of harm that
 25 NEV. REV. STAT. § 104.2314 aims to prevent, that is, harm to consumers and the public caused
 26 by defective or dangerous products. Finally, Defendant’s violation of the statute proximately

27
 28 of causation, because defendant manufacturer should have foreseen the possibility of “some sort of violent
 reaction, such as pushing, by intoxicated or politically volatile persons, ignited by sight” of George Bush mask).

1 caused Plaintiffs harm, because Defendant did not confine its marketing of bump stocks to the
2 disabled, but targeted buyers like Paddock, who used them to cause Plaintiffs' injuries.

3 **C. Plaintiffs Adequately Allege Claims for Negligent Infliction of Emotional Distress**

4 Plaintiffs have adequately pled direct and bystander claims for negligent infliction of
5 emotional distress ("NIED"). Slide Fire's arguments (Mot. at 20-21) are unpersuasive.

6 In Nevada, a bystander can recover for NIED by showing "that he or she (1) was located
7 near the scene; (2) was emotionally injured by the contemporaneous sensory observance of the
8 accident; and (3) was closely related to the victim." *Grotts v. Zahner*, 989 P.2d 415, 416 (Nev.
9 1999). While Defendant claims that only bystanders may bring direct NIED claims, several
10 cases—including from the Nevada Supreme Court and this District—have held to the contrary.
11 *See, e.g., Shoen v. Amerco, Inc.*, 896 P.2d 469, 477 (Nev. 1995) ("[i]f a bystander can recover
12 for the negligent infliction of emotional distress, it is only logical that the direct victim be
13 permitted the same recovery."); *Peterson v. Miranda*, 991 F. Supp. 2d 1109, 1118 (D. Nev.
14 2014) (denying defendants' motion for summary judgment on NIED claim, for "in Nevada, a
15 direct victim of a defendant's negligent acts can recover for negligent infliction of emotional
16 distress"); *Eleanora J. Dietlein Tr. v. Am. Home Mortg. Inv. Corp.*, No. 3:11-CV-0719-LRH-
17 VPC, 2012 WL 1602404, at *3 (D. Nev. May 4, 2012) (holding "in Nevada, a direct victim of a
18 defendant's negligent acts can recover for negligent infliction of emotional distress").¹⁹

19 Slide Fire inaccurately claims that Plaintiffs fail to allege that they were "closely related
20 to any victim". Mot. at 21. In fact, Plaintiffs allege they are family members of victims or
21 victims themselves, and were at the concert when the shooting took place. *See* Compl. ¶¶ 93-95
22 ("each Plaintiff and all of those similarly situated witnessed the carnage and death [and injuries]
23 of loved ones, family members . . .") (emphasis added); Compl. ¶¶ 109-111.

24 Additionally, while Slide Fire claims that Plaintiffs did not allege a "physical impact or
25 serious emotional distress causing physical injury or illness" (Mot. at 21), Plaintiffs easily
26 satisfy the emotional injury requirement, given the historic violence of the shooting. Nevada
27

28 ¹⁹ Moreover, even if no direct NIED claim were cognizable under Nevada law, Plaintiffs could recover for emotional distress under their well-pled negligence claim (*see* Compl., Count I).

1 courts have upheld bystander NIED claims resulting from far less calamitous events. *See*
 2 *Ervine v. Desert View Regional Med. Ctr. Holdings, LLC*, Case No. 2:10-CV-1494 JCM
 3 (GWF), 2016 WL 5419417, at *1, 8 (D. Nev. Sept. 27, 2016) (denying summary judgment on
 4 NIED claim when defendant allegedly refused to provide plaintiff's deaf wife with a sign-
 5 language interpreter while she was in the defendant's medical center); *Downs v. River City*
 6 *Grp., LLC*, No. 3:11-cv-0885-LRH-WGC, 2012 WL 1684598, at *3 (D. Nev. May 11, 2012)
 7 (denying motion to dismiss NIED emotional injury when defendant bank conducted foreclosure
 8 although plaintiff was not in default).

9 Moreover, Plaintiffs allege that they "suffered a shock resulting from the sensory and
 10 observance of the carnage" (Compl. ¶¶ 94-95), which Nevada courts have expressly held
 11 supports an NIED claim. *See, e.g., Eleanora J. Dietlein Trust v. Am. Home Mortg. Inv. Corp.*,
 12 No. 3:11-CV-0719-LRH-VPC, 2012 WL 1602404, at *3 (D. Nev. May 4, 2012) (plaintiffs
 13 may recover for NIED where they witnessed defendant wrongfully foreclosing on their home,
 14 and "suffer[ed] a shock"); *Crippens v. Sav on Drug Stores*, 961 P.2d 761, 761-63 (Nev. 1998)
 15 (plaintiff adequately pled that she "suffer[ed] a shock" from emotional impact in a bystander
 16 NIED claim where plaintiff administered to her mother medication improperly dispensed by
 17 defendant, and observed her mother become permanently disabled as a result).

18 Finally, Plaintiffs have alleged the need for medical mental health monitoring (Compl.,
 19 Counts 1-5), which, under Nevada law, does not require a "present" allegation of physical
 20 injury. *See Sadler v. PacifiCare*, 340 P.3d 1264, 1270-72 (Nev. 2014). As in *Sadler*, Plaintiffs
 21 have an interest in avoiding expensive psychological and physical examinations, which they
 22 will need to monitor emotional *and* physical symptoms resulting from Defendant's negligent
 23 conduct. The purpose of requiring medical monitoring in *Sadler* was the same as here: to catch
 24 the onset of illness as early as possible so that they do not lose "valuable treatment time." *Id.* at
 25 1271. Regardless of the standard applied, Plaintiffs have adequately alleged NIED claims.

26 **D. The Complaint Properly States a Claim for Public Nuisance**

27 In contending that public nuisance claims are not cognizable in Nevada, Slide Fire
 28 incorrectly represents the law. Mot. at 22. In Nevada, a private individual *does* have a claim
 for public nuisance if he or she establishes some special injury or damage different than that

1 sustained by the general public. *Blanding v. Las Vegas*, 1929 Nev. LEXIS 41, at *27-29 (Nev.
 2 Sept. 25, 1929); *see also Fogg v. Nev.-Cal.-Or. Rwy.*, 20 Nev. 429, 437–38 (Nev. 1890) (same).
 3 *Cf. Williams*, 103 A.D.3d at 1192 (gunshot victim suffered special injury beyond that
 4 experienced by community at large, stating public nuisance under New York law).

5 Plaintiffs’ allegations clearly meet this standard. Indeed, it is hard to imagine injuries
 6 more extraordinary than those alleged by Plaintiffs. *See, e.g.*, Compl. ¶¶ 94-95 (claiming that
 7 each Plaintiff witnessed carnage, death and injuries of “loved ones, family members and
 8 friends” and “suffered a shock resulting from the sensory and observance of the carnage”). As a
 9 result of Defendant’s manufacture and sale of bump stocks, Plaintiffs have suffered and
 10 continue to suffer emotional distress and psychological trauma from being fired upon and/or
 11 witnessing first-hand the carnage and injuries to family members, friends, and fellow concert
 12 goers -- injuries above and beyond those suffered by the community at large. Moreover,
 13 maintaining Plaintiffs’ claims would be consistent with rulings in multiple other jurisdictions,
 14 which have denied motions to dismiss public nuisance claims against gun dealers and
 15 manufacturers. *See, e.g., White v. Smith & Wesson*, 97 F. Supp. 2d 816, 823 (N.D. Ohio 2000)
 16 (denying motion to dismiss a public nuisance claim); *James*, 820 A.2d at 50–53 (same); *City of*
 17 *Cincinnati*, 768 N.E.2d at 1141–45 (same); *Johnson v. Bulls Eye Shooter Supply*, 2003 WL
 18 21639244, at *4 (Wa. Super. Ct. June 27, 2003) (same).

19 **E. The Complaint Properly States a Claim for Products Liability**

20 Slide Fire inaccurately claims that Plaintiffs have not stated a claim for strict products
 21 liability. As required, Plaintiffs have alleged sufficient facts to show: (1) the defendant placed
 22 upon the market a defective product; (2) the injuries were caused by the defect in the product;
 23 and (3) such defect existed when the product left the hands of the defendant. *Allison v. Merck*
 24 *& Co.*, 110 Nev. 762, 767-68, 878 P.2d 948, 952 (1994).

25 Here, Slide Fire is strictly liable to plaintiff for placing bump stocks into the market,
 26 which were then used (without modification) to enable extreme rapid fire and the largest mass
 27 shooting in U.S. history. Plaintiffs’ injuries caused by Defendant’s bump stocks were
 28 foreseeable.

Slide Fire incorrectly suggests that Plaintiffs are making a “no defect” claim. Mot. at 23. However, Nevada courts have held that products are defective which are dangerous because they fail to perform in the manner reasonably to be expected in light of their nature and intended function. *Allison*, 110 Nev. at 767-68, 878 P.2d at 952; *see also*, *Duzer v. Shoshone Coca Cola Bottling Co.*, 103 Nev. 383, 741 P.2d 811 (1987) (holding an unreasonably dangerous product is defective).

Slide Fire relies on a New York case which is inapplicable. First, that court determined defendant’s product was legal and designed to cause harm, unlike here. *McCarthy*, 916 F. Supp. 366, 371. Second, Nevada has not adopted the risk/utility analysis, which was central to the holding in that case. *Id.*, but *c.f. Ford Motor Co. v. Trejo*, 402 P.3d 649 (Nev. 2017) (upholding consumer expectations test in products cases). Plaintiffs have adequately pled a strict products liability claim.

VI.

CONCLUSION

Defendant Slide Fire’s Motion to Dismiss should be denied.

DATED this 30th day of March, 2018

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on 30th day of March, 2018, I served the above **PLAINTIFFS'**
OPPOSITION TO DEFENDANT SLIDE FIRE SOLUTIONS, LP'S MOTION TO
DISMISS THE COMPLAINT PURSUANT TO RULES 12(B)(2) AND 12(B)(6) through the
CM/ECF system of the United States District Court for the District of Nevada (or, if necessary, by U.S.
Mail, first class, postage pre-paid), upon the following:

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